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## THE INTELLIGENCER.

WHEELING, MARCH 5, 1900.

## The League Convention.

The League of Republican Clubs of this state, which holds its convention at Parkersburg, on Thursday, of this week, will be a great power for good if properly managed, but not if it is improperly manipulated. The Intelligencer does not mean to leave the impression that it charges that the league has ever been diverted to improper uses—it merely drops a word of caution. It should be for every candidate, and no one in particular. The league is a great help to party organization, and this year it will be an immense help in its watchfulness of the party's interests in localities where the state executive committee may not be able to reach as effectively. The league needs to be thoroughly reorganized, and all of the gentlemen who aspire to the presidency of the organization have qualities that highly recommend them for this task. So far as the Intelligencer is informed, four gentlemen have announced themselves for the presidency—Ira E. Robinson, of Taylor county; W. B. Matthews, of Kanawha, and Thomas F. Barrett and J. W. Vandervort, of Wood. They have been very active in party affairs, and all are well equipped for the position to which they aspire, and we have no doubt that the humor of the convention will be heartily endorsed by the unsuccessful candidates. The most complete harmony is what is desired above all things this year.

The indications point to an unusually large representation at the convention, and Senators Eldins and Thurston will be present to enliven the assembly.

## Just the Size of It.

Whitlaw Reid, in his address before the Massachusetts Club, of Boston, Saturday night, poked the Atkinson coterie of anti-expansionists under the fifth rib when speaking of the war with Spain and its results. He said: "There is no use bewailing the war with Spain. Nothing can undo it, and its results are upon us. There is no use arguing that Dewey should have abandoned his conquest. He didn't. There is no use regretting the Peace of Paris. For good or for ill, it is a part of the supreme law of the land. There is no use begrudging the twenty millions. They are paid. There is no use depreciating the islands, east or west. They are the property of the United States, by an immutable title, which, whatever some of our people say, the whole world recognizes and respects. There is no use talking about getting rid of them—giving them back to Spain, or turning them over to Aguinaldo, or simply running away from them. Whoever thinks that any one of these things could be done, or is still open to profitable debate, takes his observations—will you pardon me the liberty of saying it?—takes his observations too closely within the horizon of Boston bay to know the American people."

## Business Situation.

Henry Claws, in his weekly letter reviewing the financial and business situation of the country for the past week, says that the advance movement in the stock market is held in check by the prospect of firm money for the next three or four weeks, and the indisposition of the big holders to pull together on the long side. "There is no question whatever," he says, "but that the heavy operators are bulls for a long pull; but for various reasons, such as the troubles in the traction and gas stocks, they are not a unit; hence the market falls to respond to the many favorable conditions which are cropping to the surface daily. For the present the new gold standard law has little effect, because its enactment has been a foregone conclusion for months. Later on, possibly within a few months, it will have a still further effect, owing to the expansion of the currency, which it will facilitate. There is no need to fear undue inflation. By allowing the banks to issue circulation up to the par value of the new 2 per cent bonds and reducing the tax on circulation from 1 per cent annum to 1/2 of 1 per cent, it is conservatively estimated that the bank-note circulation may be increased \$100,000,000, and possibly more. This is an important addition, and it is likely to be much needed next autumn when the usual crop demands set in. Another excellent feature of the new bill is the raising of the treasury reserve from \$100,000,000 to \$150,000,000 gold, together with additional measures of protection for the same."

General trade conditions continue to be in a very satisfactory condition. The

extraordinary activity in the iron and steel industry shows no signs of abatement. On the contrary, the indications are that the year 1900 will be the greatest and most satisfactory the industry has ever experienced. Railroad earnings continue to demonstrate in the most emphatic manner the business activity everywhere. According to the statements of the Inter-State Commerce Commission, the increase in gross earnings of American railroads from 1896 to 1899 was over \$305,000,000. Of this total \$175,000,000 went in increased expenses, and only \$130,000,000 to net earnings. Current earnings show remarkable gains, 31 roads reporting an increase of over 30 per cent in the second week of February.

"In the face of such facts," says Mr. Claws, "it will be impossible to keep the stock market down indefinitely. Some time in the not very distant future more activity in speculation is inevitable. For the present, however, speculative operations will have to be conducted with prudence, especially until the future of the money market is more settled."

## Regulation of Trusts.

That bothersome and intricate problem, the regulation of the trusts, has received distinguished attention at the hands of the Industrial Commission, which was authorized by act of Congress to take testimony and make recommendations upon the general subject of trusts and the various industrial combinations that have recently come into existence throughout the country. In the preliminary report of the commissioners there are many interesting developments. In the examination of the great number of witnesses that appeared before the commission diverse views were to have been expected. The report upon this point says: "The evidence, even on questions in fact, has often been contradictory, and in some instances it has been impossible from the testimony so far taken to reach any positive statement."

In its comment on this feature of the report, the Journal of Commerce says there are no less than three different views as to the good or bad effects arising from the trust's practical control of prices. It continues: "Trust advocates themselves say that prices are reduced by reason of the large capital controlled by the trusts, its ability to buy raw material in very large quantities and pay for it in cash and the numberless other economies within reach of so large an aggregation of capital. Opponents of the trust, who are not engaged in the same line of business, are inclined to believe that the prices of its commodities are maintained at a permanently higher level than would be the case under free competition. Meanwhile, those opponents of the trust, who are at the same time its competitors in trade, complain chiefly that it uses its large powers for the purpose of selling at ruinously low prices for limited periods and within limited areas for the purpose of destroying competition and securing the whole market to itself. After this end is attained, they do not doubt that prices are fixed unduly high, but their main grievance is against the means by which this result is accomplished rather than against the result itself."

There were three points upon which the commission found a greater degree of unanimity than upon any of the many others brought to its attention. As to the effect of the tariff upon trusts the commission reports that all of its witnesses "testify in favor of the tariff upon the industry represented, whether they be members of the combination or its opponents." In the second place, it is practically conceded by all of them that trusts have profited very largely, both before and since the enactment of the Inter-State Commerce law, from their ability to secure important and valuable discriminations in their favor in the freight rates of common carriers. The third point of general agreement among the witnesses has reference to the value of publicity. Upon this subject the commission says:

"Many of the witnesses, including even representatives of combinations, are of the opinion that a much greater publicity regarding the affairs of such combinations than is now customary would tend to remove many of the evils. As regards the general public, the knowledge thus secured would avail to prevent the maintenance of extortionate prices as well as unfair methods and conditions of competition. Stockholders and investors would also be protected against abuses by promoters and officers of corporations."

"Most of the commission's recommendations," says the Journal, "have reference, directly or indirectly, to the necessity of requiring greater exactness and publicity in the accounts, reports and prospectuses of corporations. In this respect, the report is strikingly like the Companies act proposed for adoption in New York, upon which we have recently commented at some length. Until the recommendations are put in more specific form it will be difficult either to adopt them or dissent from them with any degree of confidence. Some degree of publicity is unquestionably desirable. But any business, whether managed by a corporation or an individual must be assured an ample measure of privacy with reference to its business contracts. The whole question turns, therefore, upon the kind and degree of publicity to be enforced, and upon this aspect of the case this preliminary report is too indefinite to form the basis for argument."

President McKinley, speaking at the banquet of the Ohio Society, at New York, Saturday evening, gave voice to these many sentiments, which we are sure will strike a responsive chord in the hearts of the people of the country: "Out of these recent events have come to the United States grave trials and responsibilities. As it was the nation's war, so are its results the nation's problem. Its solution rests upon us all. It is too serious to stifle. It is too earnest for repose. No phrase or catchword can cancel the sacred obligation it involves. No use of epithets, no aspersions of motives by those who differ, will contribute to that sober judgment so essential to right conclusions."

Dr. Leyds, the European agent of the Transvaal republic, intimates that President Kruger is open to any offers of mediation of the difficulties between his country and Great Britain. In behalf of humanity, let us hope that the drenching of African soil with blood will soon cease.

"President McKinley," says the Philadelphia Press, "has cut the ground from under the objectors to the Puerto Rican tariff at a stroke. He ends the chorus of criticism over the 'oppression' of Puerto Rico by proposing to give the island the entire sum, \$2,000,000, paid on imports from Puerto Rico in the past eighteen months, since Puerto Rico came into possession of the United States. This is twice the annual revenue of Puerto Rico under Spanish rule, when about one million dollars in silver was annually raised by taxation. In other words, Puerto Rico starts with a gift from the United States treasury of twice its usual yearly income for all purposes."

So far, it appears that Hon. A. B. White is having things his own way in the matter of delegates to the state convention. It must be conceded, however, that the Hon. R. H. Freer's strongholds have not yet spoken. While it is a great compliment to Mr. White to have received such a flattering endorsement of his home county, it would have seriously embarrassed his candidacy had he not secured such endorsement.

Operator Eugene V. Debs breaks a long silence to oracularly exclaim that the present prosperity the country is enjoying "is a ghastly lie," which goes to show that Debs is something of a liar himself.

The class of New York papers that are trying to purify the stage would better devote their time and talents to relieving their own pages of impure and salacious matters.

## "DEWEY DAY" ECKOES.

The "Dewey Day" edition of the Wheeling Intelligencer was a feat of journalism to be proud of. The vast amount of interesting historical matter which is brought together by that pa-

battle of Manila Bay by a long shot—Hampshire Review.

Wheeling citizens and the weather man are on the outs, as he predicted "clear and fair" weather for "Dewey Day." Movements toward the hip pocket are not expected.—Fairmont Free Press.

"Dewey Day" at Wheeling drew an immense crowd and it would have been perhaps still larger had the weather been different. A more disagreeable day could hardly have been imagined—rain, snow and mud being the chief concomitants. Some saw Dewey, some did not, for although he passed along in the procession, few knew that he was in the carriage. Of course quite a number saw the hero of Manila at the Carroll Club and at the private car. It is enough, perhaps, to know that Dewey was there—we were all there—and whatever there was of joy and pleasure on the occasion and its attendant discomforts, is all a thing of the past. At the next big blow-out everybody will be there, rain or shine. Wheeling managed the affair pretty well, and none, perhaps, will begrudge them the money they made. The decorations were good and on a brighter day would have made a very fine appearance.—Wellsburg Herald.

Quite a crowd gathered at the station to see Admiral Dewey pass through on his way to Wheeling and everyone at the station saw the admiral. Several were heard to remark that "Dewey is only a man, after all." Certainly he is only a man. We did not expect to see an angel or a being from another world, but we did expect to see a great man, and that is what we saw. By his valor and strategy he achieved one of the greatest naval victories in the world's history and every American citizen who has a spark of patriotism left in his bosom will always speak of Dewey's victory with pride.—Cameron Banner.

The Wheeling Intelligencer issued a splendid sixteen-page "Dewey Day"



CHARLES HOWE, AMERICAN SAILOR.

Charles Howe was the janitor at the Stone & Thomas stores at the outbreak of the Spanish-American war. Years before he had served in the American navy, and later sailed many seas in the merchant service. When the news of the blowing up of the Maine came, he became restless, and with the outbreak of hostilities with Spain in April, 1898, he threw up his position here and went to New York, determined to enlist in the navy, and "Remember the Maine." This determination he speedily carried out and was assigned to the *Yankee*, one of the many auxiliary cruisers the navy department had fitted out for service as commerce destroyers. Her commander was Commander W. H. Brownson, who had rendered valuable services in the weeks preceding the war by buying up ships abroad, he being at the time naval attaché at London.

"I first enlisted in the navy in 1872," said Mr. Howe, in speaking of his experiences yesterday afternoon, "and served five years. I was assigned to the old frigate *Shenandoah*, and later was transferred to the *Minnesota*. I saw service on the Asiatic station in these ships. After leaving the navy I was in the merchant service a number of years, and sailed on several of the vessels plying in the Pacific mail service, including the *Newport* and *Colon*. Several years ago I came to Wheeling and entered the employ of Stone & Thomas. I made up my mind to leave and re-enter the navy the moment war broke out with Spain in '98. I went to New York in April and on the 27th enlisted. I was assigned to the auxiliary cruiser *Yankee*, and saw some exciting service aboard her. We figured in the bombardment of El Morro, at the mouth of Santiago harbor. Next we went to Guantanamo harbor, bomb-

ard and captured the place. Next we went to Cienfuegos, on the southern coast of Cuba, and here had an action with the Spanish gunboats and harbor defenses. We sank a gunboat and silenced the forts. We were next sent to Key West for orders, and on our way there we came up with five fishing boats off the Isle of Pines, which we captured. We burned all but one of the fishing smacks, and kept the other alongside, believing it had a cargo of fish, off which we expected to feast the next day, but it turned out a joke on us when we investigated and found there was but one fish, which, of course would not go around our crew. At Key West we took on fifteen or twenty tons of mail for the fleet, and expected to return to Santiago at once, but orders came from Washington for us to await further orders, and in the meantime we learned of the naval victory off Santiago. Of course we felt we were down on our luck because we hadn't had the opportunity to take part in sinking Cervera's ships. After reaching New York, where we were now ordered, we took on three hundred tons of ammunition for the fleet. After delivering this, we went to Porto Rico, and learned that the Spanish at Santiago had surrendered. That same day we captured two prizes, which we sent back to Guantanamo bay. One flew the Norwegian flag, and the other the British. Soon we were ordered back to New York, and in September, 1898, I left the navy, and am now back in good old Wheeling, in my old job, and glad to be here."

Mr. Howe, who is about fifty years of age, is very modest, and decidedly averse to blowing his horn. He is built of the right stuff, and an ardent patriot. "I would enlist again in a minute, if another war was declared," said he to the Intelligencer man.

edition, Thursday. It was full of interesting reading matter and contained pictures of a number of well known citizens besides those of Admiral Dewey and wife.—Ritchie Gazette.

"Dewey Day" at Wheeling last week was a fine affair, greatly marred by bad weather. Several went from here and the Bellairs, Zanesville & Cincinnati road was credited with taking the most people to Bellairs.—Monroe (Ohio) Gazette.

The "Dewey Day" celebration in Wheeling was not as big a success as was expected. In the first place the weather was very disagreeable and Dewey himself not much better. He refused most of the courtesies offered him and acted very rudely, showing that he did not appreciate the kindness and many good things done for him. The fact of it is, as we have before indicated, Dewey has been considerably spoiled by the fool American people.—Kingwood Argus.

It was several days after the celebration that the last Morgantown man came back from the Wheeling celebration. They report outside of the weather, the affair was a great success. The feeling against Dewey in Wheeling is said to be deep. He refused many of the courtesies that were extended him and acted continually in a manner that ruffled his hosts and showed that he did not appreciate what they were trying to do. Wheeling held her hand to him when the rest of the country was down on him, and he should have shown them more politeness.—Morgantown New Dominion.

J. S. RHODES &amp; CO.

## Drummer's Linen Samples.

Notwithstanding the low prices marked on them, we will close out what is left at a discount of 20 per cent. This makes them much less than half the regular value.

Hand Embroidered Linen Bed Spreads and Tidies, Scarfs and Squares in this lot.

30 Cloths, 2 to 3 yards long, 2 to 2 1/2 yards wide, comes under the 20 per cent discount.

New Colored Dress Goods, Camel's Hair Plaids, for skirts, 50c to \$1.75 a yard—nobby styles.

New Corded Black Goods, \$1.50 to \$2.00, and heavy Henriettas, the new goods for Tailor Made Suits.

Special values in Black Taffeta Silk at 75c—market price 90c.

## J. S. RHODES &amp; CO.

## POLITICAL.

Meeting of the State League of Republican Clubs.

To the Republicans of West Virginia. The time has come for aggressive action on the part of all adherents of our great party, which is now, as ever, the party of vital and positive principles. This year, as heretofore, Republicanism means patriotism. It therefore behooves the friends of good government everywhere to use all honorable means to perpetuate Republicanism upon the live questions of the day, a meeting of the West Virginia State League of Republican Clubs is hereby called for

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1900, to be held in the city of Parkersburg, W. Va., for the purpose of reorganization, consideration of plans of work for this year's campaign, election of delegates to the National League meeting, and for such other business as may properly come before it. Each club is entitled to five delegates, and it should also elect five alternates. Republicans in every county are urged to organize clubs at once, and send the name of each club, with lists of officers and delegates, without delay, to the secretary at Charleston.

Speakers of national reputation will be present to address the meeting.

By order of the Executive Committee.

WM. BURDETTE MATHEWS, First Vice President.

D. E. HUGHES, Secretary.

## PURITAN GAS RANGES.

## Economical!

Gas Heaters are those that give the most heat for the smallest amount of gas.

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The styles are the latest and the prices are the lowest consistent with long wearing qualities and the best workmanship.

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A Generous Comic Treat.

## HOYT'S

## A MILK WHITE FLAG.

Presented by a large and excellent company with spectacular features and lavish costumes.

Prices 25c, 50c, 75c and \$1.00. Reserved seats sale opens Tuesday morning at the Opera House box office.

## \*OPERA HOUSE\*

Thursday Night, March 8.

A Notable Event—Appearance of the Distinguished Actor, CRESTON CLARKE.

—and—

MISS ADELAIDE PRINCE.

Supported by a competent company, presenting a magnificent scenic production of Mr. Clarke's latest success.

## THE RAGGED CAVALIER.

Prices—50c, 75c and \$1.00. Reserved seats sale opens Tuesday morning at the Opera House box office.

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Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, March 6, 7, 8. Matinee Wednesday.

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## THE LIMITED MAIL.

Will arrive on time, and with the assistance of the wonderful Beatrice and a famous coterie of actors and comedians will make things decidedly lively.

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Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 8, 9, 10. Matinee Saturday.

Cartier's Great Spectacular Scenic Production.

"THE HEART OF CHICAGO."

See the marvelous approaching train. A powerful company. High class specialties. Night prices, 15c, 25c and 50c.

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FOR RENT—A GOOD FARM OF 300 acres, eight miles from Wheeling, near Eberhard, Marshall county, W. Va. near on Farmington Pike. For reference apply to J. A. SHABRIGHT, 201 Jackson street, city.

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R. H. LIST, 1010 Main St.

PROPOSALS FOR HAULING PAVING BRICKS.

Sealed proposals will be received by the Board of Public Works of the city of Wheeling until 12 o'clock noon Monday, March 12, 1900, for hauling paving bricks during the year ending December 31, 1900. Specifications can be obtained at the office of the clerk of the board.

The successful bidder or bidders will be required to furnish bond in the sum of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars as a guarantee for the faithful performance of the contract.

The board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

WM. H. HORNISH, Clerk.

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Mrs. Lamb's residence at Echo Point, a rare opportunity to secure a home.

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No. 75 1/2 Fourteenth street.

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Desirable dwelling in Leatherwood.

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By Mary Johnston, Author of "Prisoners of Hope."

A powerful historical romance of early colonial Virginia, abounding in dramatic incidents, as fine as it is strong; admirable in descriptions of natural scenes, with an exquisite love story running through it and crowning the end.

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